

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the final Office Action dated January 28, 2008, Applicants note that claims 1-3, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29-31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 42 are pending in the above-referenced application. Claims 1-3, 17 and 30 are rejected and claims 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40 and 42 are objected to. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Evans (U.S. Patent No. 6,954,046). Claims 2-3, 17 and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over Evans in view of Yamazaki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,195). Applicants traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a semiconductor device comprising a first memory accessed by the processor and serving as a main memory, and a plurality of page memory units obtained by partitioning a second memory unit which is different from the first memory unit and is accessible within several clock cycles by the processor at a speed higher than a speed at which the first memory unit is accessible and serves as a cache memory such that each of the page memory units has a storage capacity of several kilobytes.

The Examiner equates the hard disk disclosed by Evans with the first memory unit recited in claim 1, and equates the main memory of Evans with the second memory unit recited

in claim 1. However, the hard disk of Evan does not function as a main memory, nor does the main memory of Evans function as a cache memory.

Accordingly, as anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires that each element of the claim in issue be found, either expressly described or under principles of inherency, in a single prior art reference, *Kalman v. Kimberly-Clark Cor p.*, 713 F.2d 760, 218 USPQ 781 (Fed. Cir. 1983), and Evans fails to disclose at least the above described elements, it is clear that Evans does not anticipate claim 1.

Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as independent claim 1 is patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims dependent thereon are also patentable. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are patentable based on their own merits by adding novel and non-obvious features to the combination.

III. Conclusion

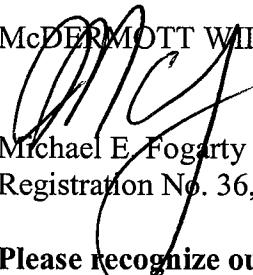
Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP


Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

**Please recognize our Customer No. 53080
as our correspondence address.**

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 MEF:amz
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
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